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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 21 April 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you the White Paper of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 11 April 1994.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 64 and 65 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50/Rev.1.

Annex

WHITE PAPER OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA DATED 11 APRIL 1994

Japan's nuclear armament has reached danger level

1. Japan has long sought nuclear armament

Its ambition for nuclear armament has been fully revealed in the remarks of successive Japanese authorities and official documents.

Article 9 of the "Constitution of the State of Japan" (Peace Constitution), which was adopted in November 1946 under strong internal and external demand and pressure says that the Japanese people, sincerely aspiring after international peace based on justice and order, shall abandon for good and all war, armed threat and armed action through the invocation of State power as a means of resolving international disputes. To this end, they shall not possess an army, a navy, an air force and other war potential and shall not recognize the right of belligerency of the State.

Successive Japanese authorities, however, urged by the desire to turn the country into a military Power, a nuclear Power, have tried by hook or by crook to justify their nuclear armament scheme from the 1950s, totally denying or arbitrarily interpreting the Constitution itself.

On 7 May 1957, the Prime Minister of Japan, Nobusuke Kishi, said at the Budget Committee of the House of Councillors that if anyone simply mentions the nuclear weapon, all people say it contravenes the Constitution. But such an interpretation of the Constitution is wrong. ... Without looking into future developments, we cannot say uniformly that it is wrong to mention any kind of nuclear weapon (taken from Japan's Nuclear Arming Which Has Reached This Stage, published in Japan, 1975).

The Japanese authorities' wild design for nuclear armament was dealt a hard blow by the movement for the ban on atomic and hydrogen bombs which gained strength within and outside Japan from the 1950s. This compelled Japanese Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, quite upset, to announce at the Diet in 1968 the "three non-nuclear principles": not to manufacture, possess and introduce any nuclear weapon.

For this announcement, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

On 2 June 1969, however, he said at a plenary session of the House of Representatives that the "three non-nuclear principles" can be altered any time when the policy is changed or the cabinet is replaced by another (see the above-mentioned book), making it plain that these principles advocated by him were a rhetoric to deceive public opinion at home and abroad.

On 2 March 1978, the Japanese Foreign Minister, Sunao Sonoda, stated at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives that it is not that

Japan cannot possess nuclear weapons, restricted by the provisions of the Constitution itself (The JiJi press, 2 March 1978). And, at the Budget Committee of the House of Councillors on 15 March 1984, the Japanese Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, answering an interpellation by a Komei member of the Diet, said that "Japan may possess atomic power, if it is for defence" (Japanese Asahi Shimbun, 16 March 1984).

Entering the 1990s, the Japanese authorities, vociferating about the changed international situation, have openly revealed their scheme to step up their nuclear armament at the final stage.

Notably, Japan intends to work out within this year "general principles of the defence programme reflecting the end of the cold war and domestic situation", holding forth upon the need to build up "defence capabilities to promptly and accurately cope with the possible dangerous events" in neighbouring countries such as "nuclear suspicion" and "missile development" by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Japan openly manifested its design to arm itself with nuclear weapons even on United Nations rostrums.

Until the first half of the 1960s, the Japanese Government, though reluctantly, voted for resolutions on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons and ban on nuclear weapons in the United Nations General Assembly. From the latter half of the decade, however, it voted against or abstained from voting on such resolutions, thus disclosing its intention to become a military Power, a nuclear Power, at any cost by making haste with nuclear development on a full scale and producing and stockpiling nuclear weapons. Explaining the reason why they voted against or abstained from voting on the resolutions, they said "a total ban on the use of nuclear weapons is incompatible with nuclear deterrent" and it "might destroy the nuclear equilibrium". But, in actuality, this was an open and undisguised revelation on the United Nations rostrums of Japan's ulterior intention to produce and possess nuclear weapons and pave the way for overseas aggression so that they could use them in case of emergency.

Thus Japan has overtly and covertly manoeuvred ever since the 1950s to adopt its nuclear armament as a policy and legalize it under the veil of the "three non-nuclear principles", opposing and distorting the "Peace Constitution".

2. Japan's nuclear armament has reached the danger level

The nuclear policy of Japan is being promoted in two directions, that is, solving the problem of power by nuclear energy and, at the same time, securing a large quantity of plutonium for the manufacture of nuclear weapons by itself to proceed with nuclear armament any moment.

In July 1966, the first nuclear power station went into operation in Japan. Since then the Japanese Government has considered the construction of nuclear power stations as an important State policy for solving the problem of energy.

According to the Director of the High Centre of Social Sciences of France, in 1976, the United States made such special concessions to Japan as approving civilian nuclear development and promising it a continued supply of highly enriched uranium under a far looser inspection system than other allies in reward for its ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. As a result, Japan has been able freely to reprocess nuclear materials and develop advanced technologies for its rearmament (Radio France Culture, 5 November 1993).

Japan has already installed sufficient nuclear facilities for its nuclear arming.

At the beginning, the United States, with a view to controlling nuclear development by Japan, sold to it only light-water reactors feeding on United States-made enriched uranium and prohibited it from developing atomic reactors of other types. Under this condition, Japan developed a new type of converted mainly feeding on Canadian natural uranium with an investment of $404 million.

Situated in Tsuruga, Fukui prefecture, this reactor has been in a full-scale operation since 1979 (Japanese book, Imidas, 1992). In this way, Japan has gained relative independence in nuclear development, freeing itself from the control of the United States.

According to the "White Paper on Nuclear Energy" published by the Japanese Government in 1993, Japan has 16 nuclear power stations with 46 reactors in operation, which are capable of producing 37.36 million Kw. This means that Japan ranks third in the world after the United States and France in the total designed capacity of nuclear facilities.

1993 alone witnessed the commissioning of 12 new reactors, and 9 units of facilities with a total capacity of 8.9 million Kw are under construction. In all this, Japan annually uses some 3,000 tons of nuclear materials.

Japan may become a dangerous nuclear Power with its capacity of nuclear weapon production largely expanded when 10 nuclear power stations, one fast breeder reactor, one uranium enriching plant and one radioactive waste storage (low standard), which are now under construction, and four nuclear power stations, including one new-type converter, one reprocessing plant and one radioactive waste storage (high standard) now projected are put into operation (Imidas, 1992).

Japan has secured enough nuclear materials to arm itself with nuclear weapons.

Japan set itself a long-range goal of depending upon fast breeder reactors feeding on plutonium in the 1950s when it started the development of atomic energy and it has produced and stockpiled a large quantity of nuclear materials by operating reprocessing plants from the middle of the 1970s.

Japan has stockpiled 26 tons of plutonium, which far surpasses the quantity needed for peaceful purposes. It is enough to manufacture more than 3,000

atomic bombs of the Nagasaki type. (Japanese magazine Bungei Shunju, June 1992.)

Japan buckled down to the implementation of its "great programme for the use of plutonium" at the beginning of 1992.

In the period from 1975 to 1992, it brought in one ton of plutonium from the United Kingdom in top secrecy and reportedly shipped in 1.5 tons of plutonium from France in 1993.

What offers a particular problem is that Japan plans to secure about 100 tons of plutonium by the year 2010, although the amount of plutonium actually needed by Japan is estimated at 85 tons (Kyodo News Service, 5 October 1992).

This means that, by 2010, Japan will store 15 more tons of plutonium than needed for peaceful purposes, which is enough to manufacture some 2,000 nuclear bombs. Therefore, Japan's claim that it has stockpiled "an appropriate amount of plutonium for economic development" can never be justified.

A recent report on the non-proliferation of nuclear materials, including plutonium, which an influential advisory agency worked out, entrusted with the task by the United States Defense Department, expressed deep concern over Japan's nuclear armament and said Japan should be urged fundamentally to re-examine its nuclear policy, demanding a stop to the project of the demonstration reactor for a fast breeder reactor.

Urging Japan to reduce the scale of the construction of nuclear power stations with 12 reactors feeding on plutonium planned to be completed by the year 2005 to 2 and stop the construction of a new-type demonstration reactor following the "Monju" and the construction of the reprocessing plant No. 2 in Rokashomura, Aomori prefecture, the report said potential fear of Japan's nuclear arming is sprouting within the United States Government. (Japanese Mainich Shimbun, 10 November 1993.)

Voice of America on 6 April 1994 said that the commissioning of a fast breeder reactor in Japan is arousing serious apprehensions and uneasiness in the European countries and the United States, to say nothing of its neighbouring nations, and it is foreseen that it would give a greater shock to the acute nuclear issue. This indicates that Japan might become one of the largest nuclear States in the near future. Japan is possessed of modern means of nuclear delivery.

The so-called "self-reliant defence programme" worked out by the Japanese Defence Agency in 1969 makes it plain that Japan would continue to develop and possess domestic nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles for their delivery. (Japanese Asahi Evening News, 27 June 1969.)

Japan's system of launching nuclear warheads was established already during the "third programme of readjustment of the defence capacities" (1967-1971). The Japanese Defence Agency completed the "domestic production" of cruise missiles in 1985 in cooperation with Mitsubishi heavy industries and other

companies. This cruise missile is a sophisticated guided missile which is available for the delivery of nuclear warheads and conventional warheads.

The Japanese "Self-defence Forces" successfully carried out a test launching of a Japanese ground-to-warship missile (SSM-1) at the Pacific Missile Center of the United States Navy in California in the summer of 1987. (Japanese magazine, "Sekai Seiji", first semi-monthly number of January 1990.)

As of December 1991, Japan possessed 393 155-mm howitzers and 132 203.2-mm howitzers that can fire nuclear warheads. The number of its nuclear-capable aircraft is on a steady increase.

It had secured 145 new-type fighter-bombers "F-15" with an action radius of 1,052 kms by 1991. It plans to increase its number to 180 to 200 by the end of 1994.

It developed a new fighter-bomber "FSX" by remodelling the "F-16" in 1993 and plans to introduce 130 of it by the year 2000.

On 4 February 1994, Japan successfully launched a new "H2"-type rocket No. 1 developed entirely by its independent technology at the cosmodrome in Tanegashima, Kagoshima prefecture. This rocket is 50 metres in length and 260 tons in weight and can be converted easily for military purposes.

The former Director of the Atomic Energy Research Centre of Rikkyo University, Japan, stated that Japan has been able to make substantial material and technological preparations for manufacturing high-performance nuclear weapons in one month or so. More than 150 companies and over 3,300 factories are involved in the manufacture of nuclear warheads in Japan. In recent years, investments in this domain have sharply increased, jumping from $173 million in 1954 to $360 million in 1991. (Indian paper Worum, 11 March 1994.)

In actuality, Japan has built perfect material and technological foundations for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. Concern over Japan's nuclear armament is expressed by government authorities of Western countries, including the United States.

If Japan is armed with nuclear weapons, it will pose the most serious and grave threat to the Korean peninsula and, furthermore, it will harass the peace and security of Asia and the rest of the world.

With Japan's nuclear armament reaching the danger level, the danger of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula being made meaningless is increasing.

Although Japan is promoting its nuclear armament on the danger level, the United States and other Western countries are turning a blind eye to this and carrying on a hysteric pressure campaign over the fictitious "suspected nuclear development" of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This policy of double standard, in fact, eggs Japan on to nuclear armament.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expresses the belief that the Governments, parliaments, political parties and organizations of

all the anti-nuke and non-nuclear States and international organizations and peace-loving people of the world will heighten vigilance against the dangerous moves of the Japanese authorities for nuclear armament and make positive contributions to the peace and security of Asia and the world by checking and frustrating them.